

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia/USSR/Rumania	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Atomic-Weapon Testing and Exercise Areas	DATE DISTR.	18 May 1955 25X1
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. 25X1
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there are three areas in, or near, Czechoslovakia where tests and exercises with nuclear weapons are being carried out. The first area is in eastern Slovakia, south of the Dukla Gap, east of Bardejov (N 49-17, E 21-19) and north of the Sovarske Mountains, extending as far as the Laborec River. It includes the hamlets of Ladomirova (N 49-20, E 21-38), Medzilaborce (N 49-16, E 21-55), Hanusovice¹, and Koskovce (N 49-03, E 21-58). The Communist authorities seem to assume that the existence of this testing range is known to Western intelligence and any activities with nuclear weapons in this area would be cover activities intended to divert attention from the other proving grounds.
2. In the second area tests and exercises are being conducted which are to remain secret. It extends to the east of the High Tatras range, from the Hron River to the Poprad River. Villages affected by this are Stara Dubovna (N 49-18, E 20-42), Blasov (N 49-09, E 20-45), Terna (N 49-07, E 21-14), Rychvald², and Tulcik (N 49-05, E 21-18). It seems probable that major exercises are to be held there this year.³
3. The third area is predominantly in the Carpatho-Ukraine. It lies on both sides of the Uz River, north of the city of Uzhgorod (N 48-38, E 22-16) and probably extends into former Polish territory. Communities principally involved are Velikiye Beresny (Velke Beresne) (N 48-54, E 22-27) and Turka (N 49-08, E 23-02). It also includes the area around Brustury (N 48-18, E 24-53), Camara near Sighet (N 47-55, E 23-53) (in Rumania), and Lahovice⁴ on former Polish territory.⁵

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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Comment: An analyst connected with the Czech refugee channel comments that this report was received in a very concise, telegraphic style, and the delimitation of the three areas is probably somewhat inaccurate.

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1. Comment: Probably Hanusovce nad Topl'ou (N 49-02, E 21-30).

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2. Comment: There are towns named Rychvald at N 49-17, E 21-12; N 49-20, E 20-27; and N 49-52, E 18-22.

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3. [Redacted]

4. Comment: Several villages in the appropriate area are called Lahovice, Lakhovtsy, Lachowice, etc.

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